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gram called "Informal Notes and Queries," under which heading opportunity is given for discussion of any questions of mathematical interest that may not arise in connection with the formal papers. Another feature which is emphasized in these meetings is the dinner on the evening between the two days assigned to the program. These dinners are held at the Quadrangle Club of the University of Chicago where ample facilities are provided for social intercourse throughout the evening.

In closing, it should be said that, while the various sections were organized to accommodate members in their attendance upon meetings, there are no designated members of any given sections, but the membership at any meeting of a section consists of those members of the Society who happen to be in attendance. Thus a nation-wide brotherhood of mathematicians is included in the one American Mathematical Society.

H. E. Slaught.

BOOK REVIEWS.

W. H. Bussey, Chairman of the Committee.

Solid Geometry developed by the Syllabus Method. By Eugene Randolph Smith. American Book Company, New York, 1913. xii + 211 pages. $0.75.

This is a book for the teacher of solid geometry who wishes to try something out of the ordinary. The propositions are not proved in full and formal fashion, but in the opinion of the author the book contains as much suggestion and guidance as the student needs. The aim of the book is to encourage original thinking and to reduce mere memory work to a minimum. There are three preliminary chapters, one on the relation between solid geometry and plane geometry, one on methods of attack, and one on the representation of solid figures by drawing. At the end of the book there are 23 pages of college examination questions selected from the questions set by the College Entrance Examination Board and by various colleges.

W. H. B.

Memoranda Mathematica. A synopsis of facts, formulae, and methods in elementary mathematics. By W. P. Workman. Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1912. iv + 272 + 28 pages. $1.75.

Although this book was written especially for the use of the English student, any teacher of college mathematics will find it a valuable addition to his library. The author says: "Most students and teachers of mathematics have at times wished for a book to which they might speedily refer for a particular formula or method. Such a want the author attempts to supply in the present volume, which collects in convenient compass the facts, formulae, and results of elementary mathematics and is intended, not to replace existing text-books, but to be a companion to them all, useful for revision and handy for reference."

The words "elementary mathematics" must be interpreted to mean all the subjects usually given in the first three years of an American college course, except integral calculus, which is entirely omitted. Many of the subjects are outlined much more fully than is usual in American texts. Not only are the formulas stated, but in many cases the methods of obtaining them are outlined with sufficient fullness to enable any teacher to complete them. As an illustration of the book's completeness, ten methods of solving numerical equations are given, some of which are entirely unknown to many teachers of college mathematics in this country.

Algebra, including the theory of equations and determinants, and plane and spherical trigonometry occupy the first 100 pages. Another 100 pages are devoted to the subject of geometry, from which the usual high school course in plane and solid geometry is omitted. Besides the ordinary course in analytic geometry, it includes the outline of what is usually given under the name of modern geometry: contact of conics, geometric and analytic treatment of polar reciprocation, harmonic ranges and pencils, inversion, etc.

The portion of the book devoted to the geometric treatment of conics is so complete that it might almost be used as a text-book in that subject, and the application of the differential calculus to the study of curves contains much that is not usually found in American books. The book closes with short outlines of statics, dynamics, and hydrostatics. Although the treatment throughout is distinctly of the English type, any American student specializing in mathematics will find it very useful.

C. H. Ashton.

ISIS, Revue consacrée a l'histoire de la science, publiée par George Sarton, D.Sc., Wondelgem-lez-Gand, Belgium.

This proposed journal, to be devoted to the history of science, has secured the support of a notable list of scholars representing almost every phase of academic activity. The "Comité de patronage" includes, as representatives of science, Svante Arrhenius, Jacques Loeb, Wilhelm Ostwald, Sir William Ramsay, Jean Mascart and others; among the representatives of mathematics and the history of mathematics are Moritz Cantor, Siegmund Günther, Sir Thomas L. Heath, H. G. Zeuthen and David Eugene Smith; among orientalists and classical scholars are Franz Cumont, Ludwig Stein and J. L. Heiberg; and among historians, Henri Berr and Karl Lamprecht.

The aim of the journal is to study the genesis and development of scientific ideas as an integral part of the history of civilization. Further than this the journal will assist in assembling the material necessary for such study and in perfecting the methods and instruments of historical research in science. It should appeal not only to historians of science but to all students of history, science, philosophy and sociology; in a word, to all who desire to understand any phase of the evolution of the human intellect.

Contributions are to be published in French, English, German or Italian.